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PATENT APPLICATION
Attorney Docket No. 15966-750 CURA-250)



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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APPLICANTS : Vernet et al.

SERIAL NUMBER : 09/825,751

EXAMINER : Misook Yu

FILING DATE : April 3, 2001

ART UNIT : 1642

FOR : NOVEL PROTEINS AND NUCLEIC ACIDS ENCODING SAME

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to further examination, please amend the application as indicated below.

In the claims:

Please replace pending claims with the claims provided below:

- B¹
1. (Amended) An isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:
 - (a) a mature form of an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:20;
 - (b) a variant of a mature form of an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:20, wherein one or more amino acid residues in said variant differs from the amino acid sequence of said mature form, provided that said variant differs in no more than 15% of the amino acid residues from the amino acid sequence of said mature form;
 - (c) an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:20; and
 - (d) a variant of an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:20, wherein one or more amino acid residues in said variant differs from the amino acid sequence of said mature form, provided that said variant differs in no more than 15% of amino acid residues from said amino acid sequence.
 - 2 (Amended) The polypeptide of claim 1, wherein said polypeptide comprises the amino acid sequence of a naturally-occurring allelic variant of an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:20.

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